

NEEDY KIDDIES ARE GIVEN REAL CHRISTMAS BY SALVATION ARMY

Christmas really came last night, instead of on December 25, for the hundreds of youngsters who were made happy at the Adams hotel last night by the Salvation army. An avalanche of toys, games, nut stockings filled with candy, nuts and fruit, and a varied assortment of other gifts designed to gladden the childish heart formed a complete circle at the base of the beautifully decorated and illuminated tree which stretched its branches high into the dome-shaped ceiling and above the mezzanine floor.

Most of the boys and girls were unemployed little waifs who were enjoying the only real Christmas they had seen in 1917, though some more fortunate attended because "all the other kids did," and because of the sheer fun of having a "regular" Santa Claus, who wore fur-trimmed clothes and had a long snowy beard, together with the most gorgeous Christmas tree in town.

Amid all the joyousness there was an occasional scene bespeaking the intensified pathos of poverty at Yuletide. One tired, thin, mother edged her way apologetically up to the counter where the uniformed dispensers of good cheer were frantically endeavoring to fill the hundreds of tiny hands outstretched to them. After waiting a moment to get the attention of one of the gift distributors she said:

"Santa Claus, I wonder if I couldn't get something for the little one at home who was so sick to come?"

"Is it a boy or girl?" she was asked. The answer was drowned out by a noisy shout of glee from a youngster who had just discovered how to operate a wonderful mechanical thing that worked with a spring, but the mother carried away an armful of boy toys that will help her little one on the road to recovery when he opens his eyes this morning.

Hundreds of hearts that craved the joy that comes with seeing others happy surrounded the youngsters in the hotel lobby, while the mezzanine floor above was packed. A buzz and hum of mingled Spanish and "American kid" language rose from the crowd that flocked around the tree. With myriads of red, green and white lights, the wonderful tinsel, shining tree was a thing of beauty. Every youngster received a stocking full of candy and nuts and fruit, while the boys were given guns and games and mechanical toys, and every little girl went away with a doll and some who were "big" enough had little beds to put them in. An entire ton of flour was distributed to the needy, to whom a full stomach is indeed a holiday.

Sons of the enterprising youngsters looked forward to another day when candy and nuts would taste good, and as they passed out the front door, returned to the side entrance again, prepared to make the rounds once more. The vigilant eye of a police officer who knew most of them thwarted the well laid plan, and the youngsters were given a better understanding of the spirit of Christmas when they were shamed out of trying to "double up."

One short little fellow evinced a savage determination that he should not lose his Christmas, and demonstrated the real American spirit of fighting for his rights. Squashed out of the line, the youngster immediately proceeded to punish another whom he held responsible, and straightway delivered a swift uppercut to the jaw of his antagonist. Then ensued a combat that was settled only when "Santa" took a hand and filling the arms of both with candy and toys produced a pair of smiles through the tears that were beginning to come.

The food administration, and Fuel Administrator Garfield. They expect to report to Mr. McAdoo within a few days.

REDMOND SHOW IS LAUGH PRODUCER

Full of laughs, "Punctured Romance" was given its first presentation last evening at the Redmond company. It is a big value, as is usual with this company, for there are nearly 20 musical numbers in the show and all of the voices are heard to advantage in special numbers.

The bill is fully up to the standard of Christmas week and as in that program Mr. Redmond is exceptionally well cast. The intermissions are very much shorter this week and this helps a lot in shortening a show which runs fast from curtain to curtain with a little of everything in it to please the guests of the house.

There will be a special matinee by the Redmonds company today as well as the regular matinee on Wednesday.

M'ADOO ORDERS ALL ROADS TO CLEAR ALL CONGESTION FOR FOOD

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tion in the east, is dissolved under Mr. McAdoo's orders today but its machinery and functions are to be assumed by Mr. Smith who will have headquarters in New York.

Some form of drastic action may be taken later against consignees who fail to unload shipments as quickly as possible, the director general explained today.

Curtailling of passenger travel is planned by eliminating trains as fast as railroads can arrange. No general increase in rates, according to the plan adopted in England, is in immediate contemplation. Commuter trains will not be affected by the curtailment plans. Engines released in this way will be put into freight service and trackage facilities and employees will be released for other use.

To relieve New York terminals, it is planned to divert as much traffic as possible to Baltimore, Newport News and other Atlantic ports. Means for accomplishing this will be studied by a committee consisting of Major General Goethals, acting quartermaster general of the army; Captain Strother Smith, representing the navy department; Edward Carey, representing the shipping board; Edward Chambers of

the food administration, and Fuel Administrator Garfield. They expect to report to Mr. McAdoo within a few days.

Legislation to provide a basis of compensating railroads under government operation and to authorize government purchase of equipment to be leased to roads, was completed today by President Wilson's legal advisers, and was discussed by the president with Representative Sims, chairman of the house interstate commerce committee, who will introduce the measure in the house soon after the president delivers his address Thursday. In the senate the same bill will be introduced by the new chairman of the interstate commerce committee, Senators Smith of South Carolina, and Capper of Kansas, who are contesting for this honor.

Joseph W. Folk, chief counsel of the interstate commerce commission, and John Barton Payne, counsel for the shipping board, who have been retained by Mr. McAdoo as legal advisers will have charge of most legal questions arising under government operation of railroads.

The railroads war board tonight gave out a final statement in the form of a report to the senate interstate commerce committee, attributing the recent congestion to the overwhelming amount of freight dumped upon the carriers by war industrial activities.

"The railroads had already co-ordinated their activities before their taking over by the government," said the statement, "and for eight months have been operated as a unified continental system. The increase alone in traffic handled by the railroads in 1917, as compared with that of two years ago has been over 135,000,000,000 ton miles or substantially equal to the combined total traffic for a year of the railroads of Canada, Germany, Great Britain, Russia, France and Austria. In the first six months after we entered the war, the railroads handled as much freight traffic as they did in the entire year 1906."

Director General McAdoo tonight ordered railroads to close their accounts at midnight, and open them tomorrow as of a new year for government accounting purposes, as directed by the president in his proclamation. No change in accounting systems is required, he specified.

SNOW FAILS TO STOP FIGHTING ON THE WEST FRONT

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believed, will first have the sanction of all the countries now at war with the Teutonic allies.

That the British premier is optimistic as to the future course of events is shown in his New Year greetings to the Viceroy of India in which he says that before the new year is passed he has the good hope that "the purpose to which we have set our hands will have been completely achieved."

M. Clemenceau, the French premier, has no intention to permit the Russian socialists to gain an erroneous idea as to the stand of France in the war. He therefore has refused to sanction the granting of passports to Petrograd for socialist delegates who desire to visit the Russian capital, declaring that the situation there was too chaotic to bring about any useful result, and that a visit by Frenchmen at this time might be harmful to the morale on the allied front and also work injury to the allied cause within the enemy lines.

NEW YEAR SEES WAR SITUATION IN FAVOR OF ALLIES

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guine hopes. When they became deeply involved in the Italian campaign they had no real broad plan of inva-

sion. The local advantages won by Austro-German strategy were expanded from day to day, as barriers which they themselves believed would hold firm mysteriously gave way. It is evident from the reported transfer of troops first from the Trentino front to the Piave area and later back again to the Trentino, that the enemy was pursuing an opportunist plan of campaign rather than following a well rounded out and definite strategical operation.

"An examination of the tactical disposition of the enemy shows that he met with a rebuff at one point he immediately shifted the center of attack to another."

WHEAT FOR ENTENTE (Republican A. P. Leased Wire) BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 31.—An announcement is made by the government that arrangements have been nearly completed for selling 2,500,000 tons of wheat to the entente allies.

CROZIER PROMISES RIFLES IN MONTH FOR ENTIRE ARMY

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guns were not used until the Brownings were ready and General Crozier said General Forthing wanted the Vickers for ground work and had made an "unprecedented" demand for Lewis guns for aerial work. In conferences with the war college and other heads it was decided to use Lewis guns exclusively for the aviation service and the Hotchkiss and French guns for ground work until the Brownings are ready. In view of the Italian situation and demands for training purposes, Senator Hitchcock said the committee felt any and all kinds of machine guns should have been secured. General Crozier replied that he did not understand there is any machine gun shortage in Italy.

Senator Wadsworth inquired into equipment at Camp Funston, saying he understood 3 inch ammunition had been sent there for use in a few 3.2 inch guns borrowed from Fort Riley, the only field artillery in the camp. General Crozier said he did not know

the size of the artillery at Camp Funston and offered to investigate.

"They have twelve guns," he added. "It's an entirely inadequate supply, but for the same reason as other shortages, because the country hasn't seen fit to approve larger supplies."

Senator McKellar asked just when each man in the American forces in training and in the field will have a rifle.

"I think the regular army and national guard," General Crozier replied, "will be completely equipped with Springfield rifles within a month, unless new organizations are unexpectedly created."

"The national army," he continued, "will use Enfield rifles."

"Within a fortnight there will be enough made," he said. "If the railroads will do what they ought to do, we ought to have a complete supply delivered in camp by February 1."

Senator McKellar asked when all forces can be fully equipped with machine guns.

"I don't think it could be promised before the first of July," General Crozier replied.

Senator Frelinghuysen brought out that in the war department rifle contracts there are no stipulations or penalties regarding deliveries.

"Then you are practically in the power of the manufacturers?" the New Jersey senator asked.

"No, I can step in and take over the factories," the witness said. "But, actually, they are exceeding estimates of deliveries."

General Crozier said he believed he could equip the proposed new draft of 500,000 men with rifles in two months.

"By the time the men are ready their rifles will be ready," he said.

Reports that the ordnance department has issued wooden guns to training camps was flatly denied by General Crozier, who said wooden fencing sticks for bayonet practice shaped somewhat like guns had been issued.

Rifle production in this country is satisfactory, General Crozier said. Assistance from the allies in heavy artillery is necessary, he stated, and added: "We'll get on very well with the assistance from England and France, but without their assistance we would get out all wrong."

RELIEF OF EASTERN COAL SHORTAGE IS GOVERNMENT'S AIM

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to relieve car congestion is expected to expedite the movement of coal.

The fuel administration's plan for zone distribution of coal, officials believe, can be put into practice successfully with the railroads under government operation. It would eliminate cross-hauling and make for a more equitable distribution than is possible now.

Every producing district would be required to serve a particular territory and no contracts for the sale of coal would be approved if a producer sought to sell outside of the territory allotted to his district.

The National Coal association tonight issued a statement declaring that car shortage had cut coal production during the year at least 75,000,000 and possibly 100,000,000 tons.

POINCARE SENDS GOOD WISHES TO AMERICAN PEOPLE

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unites them and harmonizes the force and impulse of the great principles of justice and of humanity to bring peace to modern civilization."

President Valdez greeting said: "The republic of Panama views with calm satisfaction the future of the world in this hour of history when the destinies of the great modern community are at stake. This calm satisfaction rests upon the sentiments of loyalty and decision which impelled it at the first moment to embrace the cause of American democracy, which is the cause of the allies and the hope of the small nations which believe, despite everything, in the rule of right."

May the new year bring final triumph to those principles and crown with the laurel of victory the brave warriors who are shedding their blood on the altars of a true peace which shall abide."

May the New Year fill the pages of your lifewith health, happiness and prosperity

May you have the good fortune to possess a PREMIER, KING, LIBERTY OR REO MOTOR CAR

is the wish of the

Leach Motor Car Company

HAPPY NEW YEAR

From "THE BOYS" at the

CENTRAL PHARMACY

Goodrich Block, Washington and Central, Phoenix, Arizona



This interior view of the Central Pharmacy shows thirteen of the fourteen regular members of the attentive management and staff of the store.

From left to right are: John Rayburn, Loren Gallagher, Walker Tillery, A. G. Baldwin, E. E. Christain, W. R. Wayland, Marion Gallego, Lewis I. Hirst, Bernardo Rico, Grace Brassil, G. Ross Otis, William Argo, and F. N. Briggs. The fourteenth member of the staff believing in "Lucky Thirteen" remained out of view.

Every Central Pharmacy employee is interested in the satisfaction of every customer and the success of the store.

"Always At Your Service"

Here's wishing everybody a Prosperous Jan 1 1918

MAY your every wish be granted, and may your cup of happiness overflow---

is the sincere wish of the

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